



Painswick Playgroup Newsletter

November 2018

Welcome!

A big hello to new parents and carers, and welcome to the children joining Playgroup this term: Joshua S and Effie. We hope that you're settling in well and making new friends.

Topics this term

This term the children will be focusing on Christmas.

We are also teaching the children weekly sign language, so look out for the signs on the door in the foyer so you can see what your child is learning!

2018/19 Committee

Your committee members are:

Chair	Lizzie Bennett
Treasurer	Lisa Warnaby
Secretary	Susie Andrews
Newsletter	Marisa Vaughan
Committee	Brock Kennedy Maria Townley Chloe McCarthy Debbie Goodfield Chantell Mustoe Kate Buser Kelly Howell Ross Jones

Contact details for all committee members can be found on the notice board in the Playgroup foyer.

Next Committee meeting

The next committee meeting will take place on Wednesday 9 January – 7:30pm at Playgroup. Everybody is welcome! Come and see what we are planning and share your thoughts and ideas. Drinks and nibbles will be provided.

30 hours funding deadline

Parents eligible for this funding must reapply prior to each deadline. You will need to do this process three times a year by the 31st of August, December & March. A reminder will be put on the white board outside playgroup two weeks before each deadline to help remind you.

Fence outside playgroup door

Please don't allow children to kick the fence while waiting to come into Playgroup, as it is very noisy and disruptive inside.

Winter weather

As we move towards winter, can you please ensure that your child comes to playgroup with appropriate clothing and footwear, for example - waterproof coats, warm jumpers, wellies or boots, and gloves, hats and scarves. We let the children play outside all year round so it is important that they have the correct clothing. If children come to Playgroup in wellies please remember to also bring some indoor shoes for them.

Emergency closure guidelines

Gloucestershire County Council have issued new guidelines for closing in case of snow etc. These can be viewed from 3 December at:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures

Packed lunches

Sweets are not permitted in packed lunches - thank you to parents for adhering to this. On the rare occasion that sweets have been included in packed lunches, staff find that children tend to want to eat these first and don't finish the healthier parts of their lunches, so we would like to ask you not to pack sweets in lunch boxes.

Staff/Parents Christmas Party

Our Staff/Parent Christmas party will be taking place on Friday 7 December at 7:30pm at The Falcon. Please write your meal choices on the form provided in the foyer (next to the sign-in book.) Meal choices need to be decided by **Friday the 30th of November**, and payment for the meal needs to be handed to Playgroup by this date as well.

Nativity preparation

Roles for the nativity have been cast, and we are rehearsing for the play every day. We would appreciate it if parents could take a little time to help their child learn the carols from the sheet provided in trays.

Nativity dates and times

The nativity dress rehearsal will take place on Monday 17 December, to which siblings at the Croft School will be invited.

Performances to family and friends will be on Tuesday 18 December and Wednesday 19 December at 11am. All children are welcome to take part in all performances whether they normally attend the above sessions or not. More detailed information about the timings for the nativity have been put in trays.

Children's Christmas party

Our Christmas party will take place on Friday 21 December from 12.00 to 13.45. More detailed information about the party and a sign-up sheet for food will be put in trays. Please note that parents/carers will take responsibility for their own children at the party.

Start date for next term

The next term at Playgroup will start on Monday 7 January.

Raffle prizes

We will be holding a charity raffle to be drawn at the Christmas party. Can you, other family members or your employer help with prizes? Please let a member

of staff know if you are able to donate anything. **A box has been put in the foyer to collect your contributions** – thank you to parents who have already made donations!

Easter Egg Hunt 2019

This is our annual fundraiser and has become an institution and an attraction for people well outside of Painswick. Last year we raised £5k profit, all of which goes back into the Playgroup so that we can provide the best experience and setting for our children. Full planning will begin in earnest in the new year, but some preparation is already underway. Planning is usually led by Committee members, but we always need plenty of people to be involved, and it's an incredibly fulfilling thing to be part of and a great way to meet people. If you weren't sure about committing to being on the Committee but wouldn't mind being involved in a discrete project, please let Susie know: susieandrews101@gmail.com

There are a few things and skills we will need in particular, such as exciting raffle prizes, someone who has experience in social media/PR, and someone who can use a design package such as Illustrator or In Design. Please let us know if you can help!

Summary of Dates – cut out and keep!

Wednesday 28 November	Parents social evening 7:30pm The Falcon
Friday 7 December	Staff/parents Christmas meal
Monday 17 December	Nativity dress rehearsal
Tuesday 18 December (11 am)	Nativity performance 1
Wednesday 19 December (11 am)	Nativity performance 2
Friday 21 December	End of term 2 Christmas Party 12:00 – 13:45

Monday 7 January	Start of term 3
Wednesday 9 January	Committee meeting 7:30pm - Playgroup
Saturday 20 April 2019	Easter Egg Hunt

Marisa Vaughan

On behalf of the Staff and Committee